

Obituary

LEWIS P. BUCKNER

ELIJAH HISE NORTON, JR.

ALBERT ANDERSON TOUSAW

ALVA C. WASHBURNE

1902 **Lewis P. Buckner** 1954

Lewis P. Buckner, a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a member of the Actuaries' Club of Boston, died suddenly from a heart attack on September 10, 1954, while returning to Boston at the end of a vacation.

Mr. Buckner was born March 16, 1902, at St. Louis, Missouri. He attended the Taft School and Williams College and received a Bachelor of Science degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1926. Following his graduation he was engaged for several years in engineering administrative work with the Neptune Meter Company and later was employed by Hemphill, Noyes and Company as a security analyst.

In October 1931 he entered the Actuarial Department of the New York Life Insurance Company. In 1941 he came to the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company as Research Assistant in the Auditing Department and four years later he was transferred to the Actuarial Department as Assistant Actuary. In February of this year he was advanced to the position of Associate Actuary.

Quiet and unassuming, Mr. Buckner had endeared himself by his kindly and friendly manner to all who were associated with him during the thirteen years of his service with the John Hancock. In recent years most of his activity had been directed toward actuarial research and in this field of endeavor he displayed a high degree of skill in finding practical as well as theoretical solutions to difficult problems. He also had a rare facility of expression in reducing his findings to writing, and his memoranda and recommendations prepared for other officers and for committees were outstanding. He will be greatly missed by his friends and associates.

Mr. Buckner came from a family long engaged in insurance affairs. His father, Walker Buckner, was a former Executive Vice President of the New York Life Insurance Company while an uncle, Thomas A. Buckner, was President and later Chairman of the Board of that Company.

He is survived by his wife, Susanne Small Buckner, and by two brothers, Tully O. and Walker Thornton Buckner.

1917 . . . **Elijah Hise Norton, Jr.** . . . 1954

Elijah Hise Norton, Jr., a Fellow of the Society, died September 6, 1954 after a lengthy illness.

He was born in Liberty, Missouri on August 23, 1917. His college preparatory work was accomplished at Columbia High School, after which he chose the University of Missouri as his institution of higher learning. After completing two years, he transferred to the University of Michigan because of the actuarial courses available there. In 1940, after receiving his B.A. degree, he entered the employ of the Aetna Life Insurance Company and advanced through different departments until he was appointed Supervisor of the Group Statistical Department in 1952. In 1953, he was appointed Assistant Actuary of the Company.

The wide variety of the actuarial assignments he undertook all gave full evidence of his professional competence. His cheerful disposition, genuine friendliness, and tremendous vitality made a lasting impression on his multitude of friends. That he possessed a deep sense of self-respect was evidenced by his courage during his long illness.

1898 . . . **Albert Anderson Tousaw** . . . 1954

Albert Anderson Tousaw, Assistant to the President of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada and an Associate in the Society of Actuaries, died in Montreal on August 30th after a lengthy illness, at the age of 56.

A native of Montreal, Mr. Tousaw was prominent in life insurance circles throughout North America, having for many years represented the Sun Life in discussions involving other insurance organizations from coast to coast. He was educated at Montreal High School and graduated from McGill University, securing his B.Sc. in Mining and, in 1920, his M.Sc., when he was awarded the British Association Medal and the

Dawson Research Fellowship. He joined the Sun Life in 1922 and throughout much of his career with the Company was associated with the Actuarial division of the organization, becoming Chief Clerk in 1929, Assistant Actuary in 1934, Executive Assistant in 1944 and Assistant to the President in 1950.

Mr. Tousaw served on numerous life insurance committees. At the time of his death he was Chairman of a special Committee which was organized, in cooperation with the Department of Insurance in Ottawa, to develop a revised Annual Statement Form for life insurance companies reporting to the Federal Insurance Department.

An active church worker, Mr. Tousaw was a member of the Session of St. James United Church and a member of the Trustee Board. In 1951 he was appointed to the Board of Management of the Julius Richardson Convalescent Hospital.

He was a member of the Royal Montreal Golf Club and the Royal Montreal Curling Club.

One of the best known and best liked Canadians in the life insurance industry, "Ab" Tousaw was a stimulating companion whose sound counsel and advice was constantly being sought. He will be sorely missed by his hundreds of friends all over the continent.

1866 **Alva C. Washburne** 1954

Alva C. Washburne, Actuary Emeritus of the Berkshire Life Insurance Company, and an Associate of the Society for 54 years, died at Middletown, Connecticut, on August 26, 1954.

Born at Mt. Auburn, Illinois, on March 30, 1866, he received his early education in Lafayette, Indiana. While attending Purdue, he received an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy, leaving there in 1890. Deciding not to remain in the service, he taught school for three years, becoming Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Massachusetts Agricultural College (now the University of Massachusetts) at Amherst in 1893.

He entered upon actuarial work with the Metropolitan in 1895, completing his Associateship in 1900. In the period 1906 to 1910, he served with the Hartford Life Insurance Company. He was appointed Associate Actuary of the Berkshire in 1910 and held the post of Actuary from 1911 until his retirement in 1938. During his active life he attended Society meetings with regularity, and was present at the London meeting of the Eighth International Congress in 1927. He was a charter member of the Actuaries' Club of Boston, and a member of the Hartford Actuaries' Club.

Mr. Washburne was a man of wide interests. He was instrumental in introducing football at West Point and closely followed the development of the game. The subject of calendar reform early enlisted his attention. His interest in pure mathematics remained alert throughout his life. For relaxation he was an ardent fisherman and a keen bridge player. He was an active member of the Appalachian Mountain Club.

With his brother, the late James H. Washburn, a Fellow of the American Institute of Actuaries, he formed one of the profession's early family teams.

Married in 1892, he is survived by his widow, the former Fanny Young, and by two sons, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. His only daughter died in 1945.

All who knew him felt the warmth of his sincere spirit of friendliness. The word "friend," constantly on his lips, remains with us as a true and concise memorial.